Visiting the Zoo's Think Tank

National Zoo Social Narrative: Think Tank

Smithsonian
National Zoological Park
Conservation Biology Institute

There are many animals to visit at the Zoo.
Today, I am going to visit Think Tank.

There are many different animals to see at Think Tank.
I may find animals inside or in outside yards.
Think Tank is a place to learn how animals think.

SMITHSONIAN'S NATIONAL ZOO
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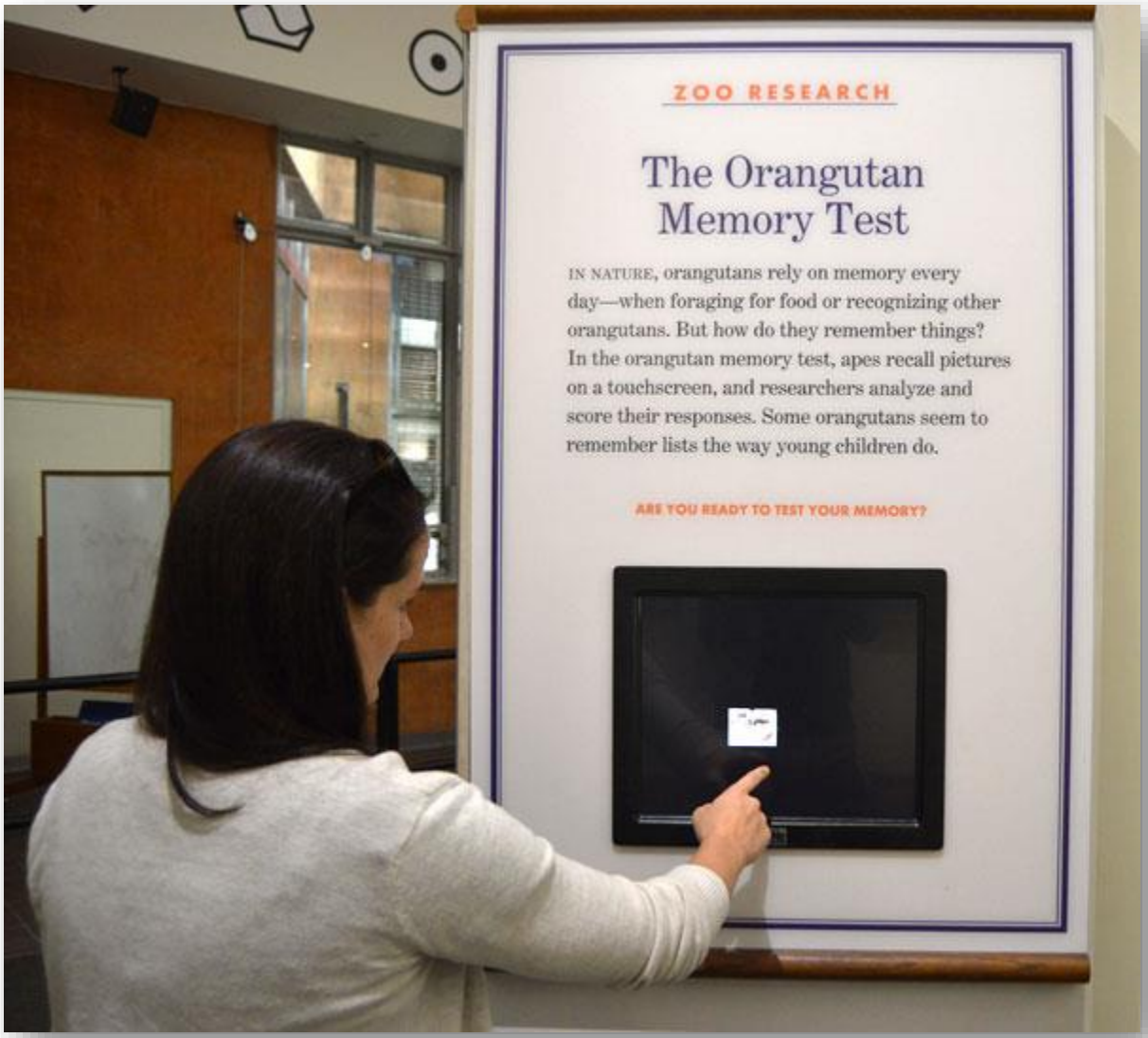

When I enter Think Tank, I will see three TV screens with flashing pictures of animals like squirrels and spiders. There are other screens in Think Tank that I may watch or touch.

I may see large displays like the ones pictured above. A figure dressed in a protective suit sits in a chair. A replica of a cow stands tall. An artificial termite mound rises high. I can touch these displays. I can use the tools behind the termite mound to explore.

I may see different types of primates at Think Tank.
Red-tailed monkeys and swamp monkeys live here.

The monkeys can choose to be in their inside or outside exhibits. They like to climb up the ropes and branches in their homes.

I may also see orangutans, a type of great ape, at Think Tank. If I do not see them inside the building, then they are either in the outside yard or at the Great Ape House.

The orangutans travel to Think Tank from the Great Ape House using the O-line. I may see an orangutan crossing over the O-line above my head. I will be safe.

I may see large exhibits for the primates with hay and other items like barrels and fire hose. The apes like to play with toys.

I may be able to test my strength by playing Tug-of-War with an orangutan.

Hermit crabs live at Think Tank. Hermit crabs use shells for protection. I may see them eating, crawling in their large tank, climbing or sitting in water.

Rats live at Think Tank, too. I may see them walking overhead through a tunnel, eating, or sleeping in the exhibit.

There are benches inside and outside of Think Tank where I can go to sit down and take a break.

Outside, there is blue paint on the ground that says "Wet Zone." The orangutans can push a button to spray visitors with water if they want to. If I see an orangutan near the mister, I can stand in the Wet Zone if I want to get sprayed.

There is a quiet zone with chimpanzee sculptures across from Think Tank. I may touch the sculptures. If the weather is very hot, I may not want to touch them because they may be too hot.

I can see animals and exciting displays at Think Tank.
I may see other kinds of primates in different areas at the Zoo.